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MEMORANDUM FOR: DEPUTY DIRECTOR FOR INTELLIGENCE
THE JOINT STAFF

SUBJECT: Exploitation of Captured Documents

REFERENCE: JIC 456/5 dated 2 May 1950 - subject: Joint
Intelligence Policies for the Exploitation of
Intelligence (Captured Documents)

1. It has come to my attention that plans for the wartime exploitation of captured documents in a centralized inter-service documents center "at a national level" are currently being developed by your staff, with the approval of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. This appears to relate to the statutory duties of CIA.

2. Since captured documents may contain intelligence information of interest not only to the military services but also to other intelligence agencies, I am concerned with the adequate coordination of such plans from the overall standpoint. I believe that coordination should be effected during the formulation of policy rather than at a later date, in order to prevent the establishment of conflicting procedures and directives on this subject.

3. Although the primary interest of the armed services in captured enemy military documents is recognized, I feel that provision should also be made for the requirements of the non-military intelligence agencies and government departments for information from all types of captured documents. During World War II it was found that such requirements could rarely be fulfilled through "liaison" channels, with the result that various uncoordinated documents collection and exploitation activities were established by different agencies, not only in the United States but in operational theaters as well.

4. I understand and concur in your efforts to avoid comparable confusion by advance planning, and I believe that active collaboration by representatives of CIA and the Joint Staff in the formulation of such plans will assist us both in attaining this end.

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5. It would therefore be appreciated if you would inform me of the present status of your plans for documents activities in wartime, and indicate your preferences regarding channels for further coordination of the program.

R. H. HILLENKOETTER
Rear Admiral, USN
Director of Central
Intelligence

cc: IAC Members

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